

LOCAL SNIPPETS

**FROM PAGE 17**  
from Proshanto Kumar and a goal each from Mamunur Rahman and Zahid Bin Talib to power past the northern divisionalside

Hasan Ahmed of Faridpur was named the player-of-the-match in this encounter.

**TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE**  
Molar Club and Bangladesh Chemical and Perfumery Society (BCPS) thrashed their opponents in the AB Bank Women's Table Tennis League at the Wooden Floor Gymnasium.

Jasmine, Nimia and Oishi won in straight sets to give Molar a 3-0 win overAmenian Girls.

In the other match, Cynthia, Ripa and Snigdha of BCPS beat Ety, Binti and Nova of Dhaka Youngs.

Meanwhile, Indian table tennis players Shivaji Dutta and Ranvir Das are in Dhaka now to play for defending champions Sheikh Russell in the men's senior league.

**BASEBALL CAMP**  
A baseball camp, organised by Bangladesh Baseball Association, for players under the age of 16 is being held at Paltan grounds.

Interested players from that age group are urged to join the training sessions, which takes place on the mornings of Saturday, Monday and Wednesday. Forms are available with Japanese trainer Hiroki Watanabe.



Binti of Dhaka Youngs in action against Ripa of Bangladesh Chemical and Perfumery Society during the Women's Table Tennis League at the woodenfloor gymnasium yesterday.

Onus on Brazil

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teams in the tournament - the top two in each of the three groups, plus the two best third-placed teams - are to advance.

However, Brazil in particular will need to do something about its image. And even in terms of results, the Copa America in Venezuela has already shown clearly that anything can happen.

L'pool close

**FROM PAGE 17**  
negotiations with Atletico holding out for 45 million euros and Liverpool refusing to let Garcia leave.

Atletico have always said they will never sell Torres despite the Spanish press constantly linking him with moves away from the club.

However the club's major shareholder Gil Marin did say recently that no-one was irreplaceable.

Hingis bows out

**FROM PAGE 20**  
the third game, Hingis never threatened to dent the American's powerful serve and she was strangely subdued as her opponent closed out the set.

Hingis needed to come out firing at the start of the second set but it was Granville who took the initiative again. She broke in the first game when Hingis tamely netted a fore-hand.

The Swiss had three break points in the sixth game, but she sent forehands long every time to let the opportunities slip away.

That proved to be Hingis's last chance.

Granville kept slugging away from the back of the court and drove home her advantage with another break before serving out the match.

15,000-up Sachin

**FROM PAGE 17**  
populous nation.

Yet Tendulkar was the first to say that, unlike Coe's achievement, or Muhammad Ali's in regaining the world heavyweight boxing title at the age of 32, his latest landmark didn't mean he'd reached a sporting pinnacle.

"After playing for 18 years, I feel it's just one of those things," said Tendulkar, who has now scored 15,043 runs in 387 one-day international matches at an average of 44.24 with 41 hundreds.

No one could seriously suggest Tendulkar's innings on Friday, coming just days after his 99 in South Africa's four-wicket series-opening win on Tuesday was a selfish affair.

It lasted just 106 balls with two sixes and 13 fours, most of them sublime, and ended with the right-handed opener bottom-edging a cut onto his stumps -- not the shot of someone with a blinkered desire to score yet another hundred.

"It's obviously a happy feeling -- especially when we ended up on a winning note," Tendulkar said after India had levelled the three-match series at 1-1 ahead of Sunday's finale.

And yet this innings was played in a fledgling cricket nation during a minor tournament against a side with little in the way of match practice

since the World Cup.

Tendulkar, 34, may hold the record for most Test hundreds with 37 but Chappell and many others name recently retired former West Indies captain Brian Lara as the greatest batsman of the generation.

Left-hander Lara's ability to make match-winning centuries against world number ones Australia without compromising his attacking game gives him the edge over Tendulkar in the eyes of some observers.

India captain Rahul Dravid, also 34, though was in no doubt about the current worth of Tendulkar who has, as Chappell acknowledges, had more injury problems than Lara.

"I think he's achieved everything he ever wants to achieve in this game," Dravid said. "But it's about motivating himself and trying to do his best for the team and ensure we win games. It's great to see."

Galletti signs

**FROM PAGE 20**  
thank both Olympiakos and Atletico Madrid for this opportunity," he said.

"I am pleased with the way that the administration of Olympiakos, the coaching staff and the fans welcomed me and I want to show my appreciation on the pitch."

Tevez to decide

**FROM PAGE 20**  
Juniors and Corinthians star, who inspired West Ham to Premier League survival on the last day of the 2006/7 season.

The Cope America has recently got underway in Ecuador and finishes two weeks into July, so any deal will have to wait until then at the earliest.

Mikael out

**FROM PAGE 20**  
The same could probably said of Benitez's new goatee beard. It is the kind of thing that can only happen when a man goes on a family holiday, aware from the scathing put-downs of hisco-workers.

On of Saturday's papers said it makes him looks like a Conquistador. Transfer Talk would probably settle for 'pillock'.

It will be gone within a week, giving it much in common with Craig Bellamy, whose Anfield welcome has been well and truly worn out.

The Reds have slapped a big 'half price' sticker on the Welshman, who will be West Ham, Aston Villa or Blackburn's for a knockdown £6 million.

What else, what else? Well, Aston Villa are ready to shove £10 million Chelsea's way if they can have dressing-room ornament Shaun Wright-Phillips.

West Ham will roll the dice on Tottenham's moody Egyptian target man Mido, while Middlesbrough will have to shell out a whacking £4 million for AZ Alkmaar's Gretar Steinsson (who he?).

Oh, and Manchester United are going to buy Carlos Tevez. Only they aren't really.

Rezaul denies Sheikh Russel

UNB, Khulna

Khulna Abahani forced giants Sheikh Russel to split points as the two teams drew 1-1 in the day's only B. League match at the Khulna Divisional Stadium yesterday.

The hosts' striker Rezaul Hakim scored the 75th minute equaliser which effectively denied the new Dhaka giants a chance to get on top of the points table ahead of Abahani. Earlier, striker Maksudul Alam struck for Sheikh Russel in the 14th minute of the match.

With this result, Sheikh Russel now have 28 points from 16 matches, a point behind league leaders Abahani who have a game in hand.

Khulna Abahani raised their points' tally to 12 from 15 matches.

BCB plan

**FROM PAGE 17**  
for the upcoming year, according to the general secretary.

But in the greater scheme of things, projected income is held at Tk 168.55 crore while it was predicted that the balance for next year would be above Tk 150 crore. Last year, the BCB had a balance of Tk 83 crore.

One of the major revenue for the board is the television deal with Nimbus and according to the board officials, they have paid up Tk 24 crore, with Tk 13.5 crore that was an advance payment.

The media reported impending dissolve of the cricket board was not discussed by the board members during the meeting.

Meanwhile, coaches' names on BCB's shortlist was not mentioned to the reporters but it was informed that the interviews will begin next week. In another development, 45 people have applied for the post of national team manager.

Mauresmo

**FROM PAGE 17**  
Watched from the Royal Box by former West Indian cricket skippers Clive Lloyd and Brian Lara, who are more than familiar with wet English summers, Mauresmo was untroubled in her third round match which she wrapped up with an ace.

Worryingly for her rivals, the 26-year-old Frenchwoman has dropped just 10 games in three matches at the 2007 championships.

Mauresmo, who goes on to face either Czech 14th seed Nicole Pietrangeli or Victoria Azarenka of Belarus for a place in the quarterfinals, would have been delighted to have got on to Centre Court on Saturday.

Torrential rain had swamped the All England Club earlier in the day.

Rafa plans

**FROM PAGE 20**  
"My head is with the Argentina team to play the Copa America.

"After that and a holiday, I will know better where I will play next season."

Benitez has struggled to find a regular left-back for Liverpool and reportedly sees Heinze, no longer first-choice at Old Trafford, as the ideal candidate to fill the role.

Eng at par with WI



AFP, London

Owais Shah blazed 55 from 35 balls as England beat West Indies in the second twenty20 international at the Brit Oval Friday to level the two-match series 1-1.

As they had on Thursday, England's run chase was hampered by the regular loss of wickets, but this time their target was not so challenging and they found enough contributions to see them home.

It was Shah, though, who stood out. Called into the one-day squad after England's disappointing World Cup, he showed great composure and a willingness to improvise in a perfectly timed innings.

Others were less impressive. Alastair Cook, who always seemed a surprising selection for this length of the game, failed for the second successive match, bowled middle-stump by Daren Powell, who was steaming in far faster than he had in the Test series.

Matt Prior, who enjoyed a successful Test series against the West Indies, though, set about the bowling with gusto, despite taking a blow on the left wrist from a Powell bouncer.

He smashed two sumptuous fours off Ravi Rampaul's second over before he too was bowled, playing all round a straight delivery to fall for 22 off 14 balls.

Jonathan Trott followed in Rampaul's next over, caught off the glove by wicketkeeper Denesh Ramdin as he attempted to pull, and Kevin Pietersen, who had got off the mark with a bludgeoning shot through the covers for four, almost followed next ball.

His edge, though, just eluded the diving Dwayne Bravo to slip.

With England 43-3, it was left to captain Collingwood once again to steady the ship. He exuded authority immediately, and struck a majestic pull for four off Ramdin.

That seemed to jab Pietersen into laction, and he hammered two leg-side fours from successive balls in Powell's next over -- neither entirely cleanly hit -- before being fortunate to get away with an inside edge as Ramdin grounded an enormously difficult chance.

His skittish innings eventually came to an end in the ninth over, as he mistimed a forcing shot on the outside and chipped a return catch to Darren Sammy.

Collingwood managed one six over midwicket, but he fell just as he threatened to cut loose, stumped by Denesh Ramdin after missing a quicker one from Marlon Samuels.

At that stage the game seemed to be slipping away from England, as West Indies skipper Chris Gayle acknowledged.

"I thought we were in control," he said. "But credit to them. They capitalised on our errors."

Shah took 16 from Samuels's next over to tip the game back England's way. Another 16 -- helped by five wides -- followed of the following over, bowled by Dwayne Smith and England suddenly needed just 24 off the final three overs.

They got them in anti-climatic style with five wides to win with three balls to spare.

"It's a great feeling," Collingwood said after leading England to his first victory as captain. "I'm just very proud of the boys and the effort they put in."

"We learnt a lot from last (Thursday) night. We spoke a lot about that,

and we went out there and did it.

"There were lot of good things about last (Thursday) night. To get that close to a massive total was a great effort. It shows we're fighters."

"We spoke about how we could improve the bowling and the fielding. We chose when to use slower balls better and everything went right."

Gayle (61) and Marlon Samuels (42) had top-scored for West Indies, but England's bowling and fielding was much tighter than it had been in Thursday's opening game as they restricted their opponents to 169-7, 39 fewer than they had made the previous day.

West Indies were hampered by a knee injury to Shivnarine Chanderpaul and a thigh strain to Devon Smith.

The two had made 102 runs between them in the first game, a contribution that always looked beyond their replacements, Lendl Simmons and Austin Richards.

In the end the two made just 19 between them and, even worse, took 27 balls about doing so.

Ryan Sidebottom ended with the best figures, taking two wickets while restricting West Indies to just 25 runs from his four overs, while Paul Collingwood, although a touch expensive, picked up the two key wickets, dismissing both Gayle and Samuel with clever variations of pace.

BRIEF SCORES

**England** 173 for five (Shah 55 not out, Collingwood 27, Prior 22; Rampaul 2-39) beat **West Indies** 169 for seven (Gayle 61, Samuels 42, Collingwood 2-221, Sidebottom 2-25) by five wickets.

**Man-of-the-match:** Owais Shah. **Toss:** West Indies.

Tendulkar sees India home

**FROM PAGE 17**  
intended cut off Tshabalala onto his stumps. He'd faced 106 balls with two sixes and 13 fours.

That left Tendulkar, 34, with a record of 15,043 one-day international runs at an average of 44.24 with 41 hundreds.

To make matters worse for India, danagerman Mahendra Singh Dhoni was bowled between bat and pad for nought by Ntini.

But Yuvraj, on one when Karthik came in, kept his head.

Kallis, a pace bowling all-rounder, didn't bring himself on until six overs were left.

Yuvraj reduced the target with a superb hoisted six off Andrew Hall over deep backward square leg.

He then late cut Langeveldt for four to leave India requiring just

one off the final over, bowled by Kallis with Karthik scoring the clinching single.

Yuvraj faced 63 balls with one six and four fours.

The series concludes at Stormont on Sunday.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard in the second one-day international between India and South Africa at the Civil Service Cricket Club ground at Stormont in Belfast on Friday:

**SOUTH AFRICA:** 226 for six in 50 overs (Van Wyk 82, Boucher 55 not out, Duminy 40; Yuvraj 3-36)

INDIA

Ganguly c Gibbs b Langeveldt 42  
Tendulkar b Tshabalala 93  
Dravid c and b Langeveldt 2  
Yuvraj not out 49

Dhoni b Ntini 0  
Karthik not out 32  
Extras: (lb-2, w-7) 9  
Total: (For 4 wkts in 49.1 overs) 227  
Fall of wickets: 1-134, 2-140, 3-140, 4-142

Did not bat: Zaheer, Chawla, RP Singh, Sharma, Powar

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Ntini	10	1	37	1
Langeveldt	10	1	43	2
Nel	10	0	41	0
Hall	10	0	54	0
Tshabalala	8	2	42	1
Kallis	1.1	0	8	0

**Result: India won by six wickets and level the 3-ODI series 1-1.**

**Man-of-the-match: Sachin Tendulkar.**

**Toss: India.**

**Umpires: Billy Bowden and Mark Benson.**



PHOTO: AFP

England batsman Owais Shah (R) exchanges high-five with all-rounder Dimitri Mascarenhas after they beat West Indies in the second Twenty20 international at the Brit Oval in London on Friday.

NCA looks to youth

**FROM PAGE 17**  
the focus was more on performances, be it domestic or A team.

The likes of openers Jahirul Islam, Imrul Kayes, Junayed Siddique, Raqibul Hasan, Gazi Salahuddin and Nazimuddin are just a step away from the international scene, so the onus is on these talented batsmen to raise their game.

Mahmudullah Riyad, who will be in Sri Lanka soon as the one-day specialist, is the only player who turns his wrist clockwise to release the ball!

But it was remarkable to see Naeem Islam and Marshall Ayub making it to the national setup. Their recall was completely due to scoring runs in the Corporate and Dhaka Premier and National Cricket League.

There was an old face among the

fast bowlers as Talha Jubair, the lanky pace bowler who turned heads at the 2003 World Cup, convinced the selectors with his impressive run in the Premier League last season with champions Abahani.

Wicketkeepers Sahagir Hossain and Dhiman Ghosh are, as predicted, in the squad.

SQUAD

Jahurul Islam, Imrul Kayes, Junayed Siddique, Rokibul Hasan, Marshall Ayub, Nadif Chowdhury, Nazimuddin, Gazi Salahuddin, Dollaz Mahmud, Ziaur Rahman, Mahbubul Alam, Mahmudullah Riyad, Talha Jubair, Suharwardi Shuvo, Naeem Islam, Nasiruddin Faruque, Mosharraf Hossain, Nabil Samad, Sahagir Hossain and Dhiman Ghosh.

FedExpress crushes

**FROM PAGE 20**  
campaign end on Court Two, the graveyard of the champions, when she was knocked out by unseeded American Laura Granville 6-4, 6-2.

Granville, who has only reached the second week of a Grand Slam once before, now faces a fourth round tie against Dutch teenager Michaela Krajicek.

Hingis admitted her gamble to play the tournament, despite not being fully recovered from a hip injury, had not paid off. "I think overall I shouldn't have played," said the ninth seed.

In stark contrast to the quickfire wins of Henin and Williams, two other women seeds endured marathon third round outings.

Third seeded Serb, Jelena Jankovic, battled back from a set down to beat Czech 25th seed Lucie Safarova 5-7, 7-6 (7/4), 6-2 and now faces French 18th seed Marion Bartoli for a place in the quarter-finals.

But Russian eighth seed Anna Chakvetadze was knocked out,

losing 7-6 (10/8), 6-7 (5/7), 6-2 to Dutch 31st seed Krajicek, the sister of 1996 men's champion Richard.

Henin has never won Wimbledon although she has come agonisingly close, losing in the 2001 final to Venus Williams and falling at the final hurdle again last year against Amelie Mauresmo.

However, the world number one is adamant she does not feel a burning desire to erase the bitter memories of those defeats.

"I still believe I can do it, but it's not an obsession for me," said Henin who has spent just over two hours negotiating her three matches.

"I don't think that much about that. I just want to enjoy every moment. I don't have anything to prove."

India's golden girl Sania Mirza, a devout Muslim, saw her controversial decision to team up with Israel's Shahar Peer pay off when the 16th seeded pair won their opening doubles beating Lilia Osterloh and Sofia Arvidsson 7-5, 6-3.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>36 Not</b>	<b>DOWN</b>	<b>23 Second-</b>
1 Track	wan	1 Tibetan	hand
17 circuit	37 Scarab,	monk	24 Sought
4 Schleps	for one	2 Minuscule	restitution
8 Weak,	39 Allow	bit	25 Spruced
as an	40 Black-	3 Mexican	up
excuse	and-	money	26 Spill the
12 Noshed	white	4 Set off	beans
13 Freshly	diver	5 Become one	27 Charac-
14 "American	41 Be there	6 Compre-	terization
—	45 Philadel-	hend	28 Lecher-
15 Estival	phia	7 Distended	ous
pest	48 Hive	8 Purple	29 Feathery
17 Meat —	dweller	shade	neckwear
18 Quantity	50 Bread	9 Commo-	32 "The
19 Actress	spread	tion	Cherry
Thomp-	51 Exam	10 Extinct	Orchard"
son	formal	bird of	writer
21 Lemieux	52 Scepter	New	33 Eccentric
milieu	topper	Zealand	35 Actor
22 Grass-	53 Portent	11 Ernie of	Gulager
hopper's	54 Wedding-	Keerber	36 Narrate
cousin	dress	ads	again
26 Stock	accessory	16 Rather	38 Claw
29 Stiller	55 Whether	20 A long	39 Veranda
or	or —	time	42 Black, in
Stein			poetry
30 —			43 Pianist
generis			Peter
31 Theater			44 Creditor's
box			concern
32 Opposition-			45 Greet the
33 Require-			villain
ment			46 Freddy's
34 The			street
whole			47 Appomat-
enchilada			tox
35 Dance			VIP
syllable			49 Raw rock

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15			16					17		
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45	46	47			48	49			42	43
50					51				52	
53					54				55	

CRYPTOQUIP

O X V Y B R P T ' U O B K J E Y R

A B Y V E U D Z Z U F B K K C Z W

X E F D Z P U V H W Z H V W K T , E

W V A J Z Y X V ' U P Y L V W U D B C C V L .  
**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** IF SOMEONE REPLACED MR. GEHRIG ON THE DIAMOND, YOU COULD SAY THAT HE PLAYED IN LIEU OF LOU.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals O